## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## **News Release**

National Wildlife Refuge System





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tina Watson, 302-653-9345

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## BOMBAY HOOK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE RECOGNIZED AS 9th ON THE TOP TEN SCENIC DRIVES IN THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM AND ANNOUNCES FREE ENTRANCE FEE ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2010

GORP.com, a trip-planning site for outdoor enthusiasts, is highlighting 10 scenic drives on national wildlife refuges. The "Top Ten" list compiled by GORP editors and described as "the most scenic, wildlife-choked routes across the country" includes Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge.

GORP.com suggests that you, "Spend enough time behind the wheel—commuting to and from work, running errands on the weekend, driving the kids to school or daycare, zipping across town for takeout—and focusing your precious time off on driving may sound counter-intuitive.

Trust us. Don't listen. Find the right stretch of pavement and you swap stop lights and billboards for mega pixel-swallowing scenic overlooks, glimpses of wildlife in their native habitat, and easy access to biking and hiking trails, picnic spots, and prime birdwatching locales.

To help prove our point, we profile the top ten scenic drives within National Wildlife Refuges. Unlike some of the State's banner national parks, these public lands truly are the country's best-kept secret. There's a refuge within an hour's drive of most major U.S. cities, yet they don't lure the literal bus loads of tourists that more popular locations attract. Instead, you'll find pristine landscapes that exist wholly for wildlife conservation, with scenic drives carved from old fire roads, logging trails, and dikes. Hit one of these top picks, or do a bit of research and find your own favorite nearby go-to spot." See the complete article on GORP.com.

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge invites you to access the scenic drive for FREE! The Refuge **entrance fee will be waived on September 25, 2010** in support of President Obama's memorandum launching the America's Great Outdoors Initiative on April 16, 2010. Department of Interior Salazar announced several free entrance days in support of the initiative at all U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management sites. Other free entrance fee days include Bombay Hook's Open House on October 17, 2010 and Veterans Day, November 11, 2010.

America's Great Outdoors Initiative focuses on promoting community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and to reconnect Americans to the outdoors. For more information on the America's Great Outdoors Initiative connect to: <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/04/16/creating-a-21st-century-strategy-americas-outdoors">http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/04/16/creating-a-21st-century-strategy-americas-outdoors</a>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <a href="https://www.fws.gov">www.fws.gov</a>.

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